

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-14

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO WASHDC PRIORITY 3399

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USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION - NIXON TRIP

1. FOLLOWING SUMMARY OF EDITORIALS FROM CHINESE NEWSPAPERS
JUNE 13:

2. THE INDEPENDENT SING PAO, REFERRING TO THE HERO'S
WELCOME ACCORDED PRESIDENT NIXON ON HIS ARRIVAL IN CAIRO,
REMARKED: "THE U.S. AND EGYPT RESUMED DIPLOMATIC TIES
ONLY A FEW MONTHS AGO, YET THEIR RELATIONS HAVE IMPROVED
RAPIDLY. THIS IS A SUCCESS OF NIXON'S FOREIGN POLICY...
U.S. RELATIONS WITH SYRIA WILL ALSO BE RE-ESTABLISHED
DURING NIXON'S VISIT TO THAT COUNTRY. THEREFORE NIXON
WILL BE FORMING MORE AND BETTER FRIENDLY TIES IN THE
MIDDLE EAST... IMPROVEMENT IN U.S.-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS
REFLECTS THAT THE SOVIET UNION IS IN A DISADVANTAGEOUS
POSITION IN THE MIDEAST CONTENTION."

3. THE LEFTIST COMMERCIAL DAILY COMMENTED: "THIS IS AN
IMPORTANT DIPLOMATIC MISSION BY NIXON. ITS CHIEF AIM IS
TO CONSOLIDATE THE DIPLOMATIC ACHIEVEMENTS WHICH U.S.
SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER RECENTLY SECURED IN THE
MIDDLE EAST, AND TO STRENGTHEN U.S. POSITION IN THE MIDDLE
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EAST SO AS TO CONTENT FOR HEGEMONY WITH THE SOVIET UNION."

TURNING TO KISSINGER'S THREAT TO RESIGN, THE PAPER SAID:

"WHILE THE EPISODE FEATURED KISSINGER, IT IS RELATED TO NIXON. FOR A LONG TIME NIXON HAS BEEN UNDER SIEGE IN WATERGATE, UNABLE TO FREE HIMSELF. NOW NIXON IS APPARENTLY USING KISSINGER'S DIPLOMATIC ACHIEVEMENTS TO LIFT THE WATERGATE SIEGE."

4. THE RIGHTIST EXPRESS OBSERVED: "NIXON'S SIGNIFICANT BREAKTHROUGH AND ACHIEVEMENT IN MIDEAST DIPLOMACY WILL BE MOST HELPFUL TO HIM IN 'DEFENDING THE PRIVILEGES OF THE PRESIDENCY.'"
IZENBERG

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